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PROPHYLACTIC PROSE

One company combines condoms and creativity • PAGE 3

theSCORE: MEAC Basketball Tourney underway in Raleigh

Lady Aggies
start season
12-2-1

Softball's blending new faces with
old for winning recipe early on.



THE A&T REGISTER

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Greensboro, NC 27411

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2008

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME LXXXI, NO. 23

NCATREGISTER.com

theYARD >>>



IS YOUR FAVORITE CARTOON RACIST?

A discussion about controversial cartoon series "The Boondocks" raised questions about the media's perception of blacks.

theWORLD >>>

GOVERNOR PART OF EXPENSIVE CALL-GIRL RING

New York Governor Eliot Spitzer apologized to his wife and family for his role in a high priced call-girl ring where he reportedly spent nearly \$80,000. **PAGE 4**

theBIZ >>>

GAS REACHES AN ALL-TIME HIGH

Gas prices hit a record high Tuesday with the national average hovering at \$3.23 a gallon. **PAGE 5**

theWORD >>>

NOT LOVE FOR THE "L" WORD

One student writes about his hate for the word and the people who use it too loosely. **PAGE 6**

theSCORE >>>

TWO SPRINTERS BLAZE NEW TRAIL

Junior sprinter Alexandria Spruiel and junior hurdler Loreal Smith became the first Aggies in history to qualify for the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships. **PAGE 9**

BASEBALL HITS BIG ROAD BLOCKS

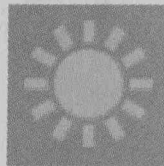
After starting the season 3-0 the Aggies went on the road for tough games against Louisville, Elon and N.C. State. **PAGE 9**

theSCENE >>>

A&T SINGER IN TRIAD IDOL FINAL

One Aggie has sung his way into the finals of the Triad Idol competition and has a chance to win a \$1,000 grand prize. **PAGE 12**

WEATHER >>>



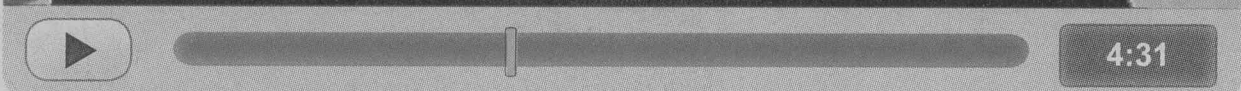
Hi: 64°
Lo: 40°

THURSDAY: Cloudy | High 50°

FRIDAY: Thunder/Rain | High 56°

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DEMOCRACY goes digital

MICHAEL J. MCCRAY
Editor In Chief

Whether it's creative young voters showing their love for their favorite candidate through song on YouTube or cynical political minds hitting the message boards with lengthy lists as to why you shouldn't cast your ballot for someone, the 2008 presidential campaign has gone digital.

More so than any campaign before it, the digital community has a voice as to what direction they want America to go in, and why not? If you can pay your phone bill, argue about your favorite team, download a movie and browse your favorite over 18 site in the same window, you might as well be able to ask a presidential candidate a serious question with ease of opening a new tab.

With the line between our digital lives and our physical lives blurring, savvy campaign managers are scrambling to come up with new techniques for capturing the digital audience. We've seen how one video can sway public opinion of a candidate. Hillary Clinton getting a boost from Jack Nicholson's viral video was a positive but you'd be hard pressed to find anyone who told Mitt Romney who let the dogs out yet or directed him towards the nearest bling bling dealer.

"The Internet has opened up a new venue for campaigning that's inexpensive and let's us reach millions of young people," said Paul Mengert, chair of the Guilford County Democratic Party. "There's no question that the candidates from the local races to the national races are filling

up people's inbox with information about their campaign, I think it's a very good thing that the people running for office have a way to contact people that's not very expensive and be in communications that would otherwise be left out of the loop."

The days of a simple recorded message from Candidate X on your answering machine have gone the way of the Walkman and now candidates must wage political combat on a battlefield that has moved from the podium to the podcast.

Brent Woodcox, communications director of the North Carolina Republican Party says that campaigns were ready for the change. "We could see this trend coming, basically more and more campaigns were getting in-

► See **DIGITAL DEMOCRACY** on Page 2

PART 1 OF 3: Getting the message to the masses. **NEXT WEEK:** Digital hurdles, fundraising and more.

COMMENTARY

Diabetes is a serious black epidemic

Over three million African-Americans have been diagnosed with disease

KAREN THOMPSON
Register Reporter

There is a serious epidemic among millions of black people that continues to softly kill us off one by one.

Nobody wants to talk about it, but yet they are willing to bury their family members, or chop off parts of their limbs and watch them go blind. This epidemic is not HIV, or AIDS, nor is it any other kind of sexually transmitted disease. This epidemic is called diabetes.

It's a word that everybody has probably heard many times before, but may have never tak-

en the time to learn about what it is and how it is killing the black race.

This innocent ignorance of a disease that is becoming so popular among our people today is one of the major causes of its mass existence.

We do not arm ourselves, and as a result, we have to suffer the consequences, when either diabetes makes its appearance in our bodies, or the body of our loved ones. At this point it's too late to prepare, now it becomes an ongoing battle for the rest of your existence.

3.2 million African Americans ages 20 and older have dia-

betes, and one third of who are still undiagnosed.

On average, African Americans are 1.8 times more likely to have diabetes than Caucasians of similar age. While there are two types of diabetes, Type I and Type II, millions of African Americans are becoming more and more at risk for Type II diabetes.

Type I diabetes occurs when the body's immune system attacks its own insulin producing cells in the pancreas.

As a result, insulin must be injected into the body by a needle or a pump in order to keep it in the body.

Symptoms of Type I are increased thirst and urination, constant hunger, weight loss, blurred vision and extreme fatigue.

Type II diabetes, which is seen the most among blacks occurs when the body does not make enough insulin, or cannot use its own effectively.

Type II usually develops more in African American adults over the age of 40, but it is now becoming more prevalent in younger age groups from children to adolescents.

The symptoms of Type II are feeling tired or ill, unusual thirst, frequent urination especially at

night, weight loss, blurred vision, frequent infections and slow healing wounds. It is also not as noticeable as Type I. Type II also accounts for 90 to 95% of all diabetes cases.

Diabetes is diagnosed more among African Americans who have a family history of diabetes, are obese or overweight, have had diabetes while pregnant (gestational diabetes), have high blood pressure, have high cholesterol, and do not get enough physical activity.

Fortunately, there is hope for every person that has diabetes

► See **DIABETES** on Page 3

Study finds 'shocking' rate of STDs in girls

■ One in four teenage girls
believed to be affected

LINDSEY TANNER
Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — At least one in four teenage American girls has a sexually transmitted disease, suggests a first-of-its-kind federal study that startled some adolescent-health experts.

Some doctors said the numbers might be a reflection of both abstinence-only sex education and teens' own sense of invulnerability. Because some sexually transmitted infections can cause infertility and cancer, U.S. health officials called for better screening, vaccination and prevention.

Only about half of the girls in the study acknowledged having sex. Some teens define sex as only intercourse, yet other types of intimate behavior including oral sex can spread some diseases.

Among those who admitted having sex, the rate was even more disturbing — 40 percent had an STD.

"This is pretty shocking," said Dr. Elizabeth Alderman, an adolescent medicine specialist at Montefiore Medical Center's Children's Hospital in New York.

"To talk about abstinence is not a bad thing," but teen girls — and boys too — need to be informed about how to protect themselves if they do have sex, Alderman said.

The overall STD rate among the 838 girls in the study was 26 percent, which translates to more than 3 million girls nationwide, researchers with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found. They released the results Tuesday at an STD prevention conference in Chicago.

"Those numbers are certainly alarming," said sex education expert Nora Gelperin, who works with a teen-written Web site called sexetc.org. She said they reflect "the sad state of sex education in our country."

"Sexuality is still a very taboo subject in our society," she said.

"Teens tell us that they can't make decisions in the dark and that adults aren't properly preparing them to make responsible decisions."

Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, said the study shows that "the national policy of promoting abstinence-only programs is a \$1.5 billion failure, and teenage girls are paying the real price."

Similar claims were made last year when the government announced the teen birth rate rose between 2005 and 2006, the first increase in 15 years.

The new study by CDC researcher Dr. Sara Forhan relied on slightly older data. It is an analy-

► See **STD** on Page 2

theBLOTTER

Accident

2/22/08, 7:18 p.m.
Lindsay Street
A female student was struck by a taxicab as she was attempting to cross Lindsay Street. The student was transported to Moses Cone Hospital for treatment of her injuries. As of 2/24/2008 the student was still hospitalized.

Arrest

2/26/08, 12:19 a.m.
Ward Hall
A female student was arrested on a warrant for a misdemeanor charge. The student was transported to jail, processed and given a written promise to appear in court. There were no injuries reported.

Arson

3/8/08, 1:30 p.m.
Moore Gym
The University Police and the Greensboro Fire Department responded to Moore Gym in reference to a fire. There was approximately \$5000 in damages and no injuries.

Arson

3/9/08, 12:19 p.m.
Pride Hall
The University Police and the Greensboro Fire Department responded to Pride Hall in reference to a fire. There was approximately \$80.00 in damage. There were no suspects, witnesses, or injuries.

B&E/Larceny

3/9/08, 5:00 p.m.
Aggie Suites
the University Police responded to Aggie Suites in reference to a male student reporting larceny. Estimated is \$100 The estimated total for all items removed is over \$5000. There are no witnesses or suspects.

— Compiled by Tiffany Adams

Top 5 stories on NCATREGISTER.com
- Album Review: Savage Life 2
- UNC student body president shot and killed
- Thought Provoking
- Make-up tips for Clinique
- Vigil honors memory of slain UNC president

Getting your political message out to the masses

DIGITAL DEMOCRACY From page 1

volved on the Internet, said Woodcox.

"I think you're seeing more and more political blogs and Internet sites that are dedicated to political talk, just examining issues. I think there's probably one for any issue you can come up with, any candidate you can come up with, any district. It has definitely been an explosion within the last few years and every campaign has to adjust or get left behind."

The one group that all political parties are trying to sway is first time voters, who tend to be either independent or knowledgeable about the voting process itself. There tool for grabbing young voters is social networking sites.

"Social networking sites, especially a site like Facebook, is adding an element to elections we haven't seen before where it's getting the youth involved and it's getting people involved in campaigns that normally wouldn't care either way," said Jay Ovittore, human relations commissioner for the city of Greensboro and a candidate for the U.S. Congress 6th District here in North Carolina.

Ovittore, who was the former president of the Young Democrats in Guilford County, says social networking plays a vital role in campaigns.

"Being able to directly contact folks to come out a volunteer, folks to get involved in your campaign, the be able to send messages out instantly to a bunch of people without having type in a bunch of e-mail addresses or send out snail mail."

Woodcox and the Republican Party

also see the potential.

"We are seeing an influx of younger voters particular, I think that it's going to get people engaged and more interested in the election and following the developments and engaging on the issues. I think that's a positive thing, getting more people involved in the process is good for the country," said Woodcox.

"Political parties have to start thinking about how are they going to reach these voters and if they already on these social networking sites, it makes sense to reach out through those."

"I think its actually really critical, I think its a combination of tactics in which we're using to reach out to young people and certainly social networking is one," said Chrissy Faessen, communications director for Rock The Vote, non-profit, non-partisan organization, founded in 1990.

"It's just kind of cool, because we're reaching young people where they're at, talking to them through mediums which they're already familiar with.

While Rock The Vote doesn't register voters for any specific party, Republicans and Democrats alike are enjoying the fruits of their online labor with huge numbers of new voters.

"The Democratic Party is extremely excited that the last preponderance of newly registered voters are Democrats," said Mengert. "We think this is a reflection of the core values of the Democratic Party being aligned with a large group of folks whose voice hasn't been heard as loudly as it should of been over the last eight years and we are just thrilled that the excitement surrounding and new people

coming in."

Woodcox and the Republican Party have also seen their numbers grow for Internet exposure.

"I think that the Republican party is becoming more and more active on the internet with fundraising as well as getting our message out through networking sites, internet web sites, trying to get more people to see what we stand for and what we're about," said Woodcox.

"Particularly with new voters, those people who are engaging in the political process for the first time, its important to explain to them what our principles and beliefs are and try to present it in a way that inspires them and makes them want to follow our candidates."

Rock The Vote has used the close political battles and social networking to its advantage also.

"We at Rock The Vote have used it to energize and mobilize our constituents to encourage them to register to vote and but then also to get out the polls," said Faessen.

Getting the message to the masses in this year's election is convenient, inexpensive and definitely effective.

"One thing that we've seen is it's really a quick way to get information out there, it's also a way to build and mobilize and energize people to get to events," said Faessen.

"I think that the way in which we're seeing it is the way in which we'll see it all the way through November and that is it's a critical piece to what campaigns and candidates need to do in order to reach out to people.

Unsatisfactory satire?

RAASHIDA RYAN-HAYES
Contributor

On Feb. 27, the Midwest Aggies hosted a discussion on the highly publicized cartoon series, "The Boondocks."

Food and drinks were provided while the audience watched two episodes of the "Boondocks," entitled "Gangstacious" and "Return of the King."

In "Return of the King" history is changed when Martin Luther King Jr. doesn't die after getting shot, but survives a 32-year coma.

When he awakens, he is shocked at the state of black culture and feels that his fight for change was in vain.

In "Gangstacious" one of Riley's favorite gangsta rappers is shot and Riley goes to visit him in the hospital.

By the end of the show, Riley is shocked when he learns the truth about his favorite rapper.

After watching the two episodes, junior public relations major and vice president of internal affairs for the Midwest Aggies, Aryn Bussey, led the audience in a discussion about some important topics raised in the cartoon.

The audience talked about the perception of blacks in the media, the affect of mainstream music on today's youth, and whether or not we have missed the dream that Dr. King spoke about.

The discussion then centered on the issues that the audience felt are problematic in today's society. The subjects ranged from problems with education to discrimination.

Chase Dearing, a sophomore industrial engineering major and parliamentarian for the Midwest Aggies, said that the "Return of the King" episode had the biggest impact on the audience. "The meaning was deeper, and besides the episode, I like the conversations we had."

Rebecca Squalls, a sophomore electrical engineering major and a member of the Midwest Aggies had her own reasons for attending the event.

"I wanted to hear some of the issues that were on the minds of some of my fellow Aggies and plus have the chance to sit down and discuss the issues that were going on in our generation and our community," she said.

She added that one of the most important issues raised was how rappers and the media mold little children.

"They're the future generation, they're babies, and it's our responsibility to look after them," she said

Bussey thought it was important to have this event. He said, "I feel like its our turn to make our own history, and by having discussions like this, I feel like we can spark a movement-start something on our own, so people can be talking about us in a couple of years."

One in four teenage girls believed to have an STD

STD From page 1

sis of nationally representative records on girls ages 14 to 19 who participated in a 2003-04 government health survey.

The teens were tested for four infections: human papillomavirus, or HPV, which can cause cervical cancer and affected 18 percent of girls studied; chlamydia, which affected 4 percent; trichomoniasis, 2.5 percent; and genital herpes, 2 percent.

Dr. John Douglas, director of the CDC's division of STD prevention, said the results are the first to examine the combined national prevalence of common

sexually transmitted diseases among adolescent girls.

He said the data, now a few years old, likely reflect current prevalence rates. Disease rates were significantly higher among black girls — nearly half had at least one STD, versus 20 percent among both whites and Mexican-Americans.

HPV, the cancer-causing virus, can also cause genital warts but often has no symptoms. A vaccine targeting several HPV strains recently became available, but Douglas said it probably hasn't yet had much impact on HPV prevalence rates in teen girls.

The CDC recommends the three-dose HPV vaccine for

girls ages 11-12 and catch-up shots for ages 13-26.

Chlamydia, which often has no symptoms but can lead to infertility, can be treated with antibiotics. The CDC recommends annual chlamydia screening for all sexually active women under age 25.

Trichomoniasis, also treatable with antibiotics, can cause abnormal discharge and painful urination. Genital herpes can cause blisters but often has no symptoms. It's not curable but medicine can help.

The CDC's Dr. Kevin Fenton said given the dangers of some STDs, "screening, vaccination and other prevention strategies for sexually active

women are among our highest public health priorities."

Douglas said screening tests are underused in part because many teens don't think they're at risk, but also, some doctors mistakenly think: "Sexually transmitted diseases don't happen to the kinds of patients I see."

Teens need to hear the dual message that STDs can be prevented by abstinence and condoms, said Dr. Ellen Kruger, an obstetrician-gynecologist at Ochsner Medical Center in New Orleans.

"You've got to hammer at them," with appropriate information at each stage of teen development to make sure it sinks

in, she said.

She said there are a lot of myths out there, too — many sexually active teens think the withdrawal method will protect them, or that douching with Coca-Cola will kill STD germs.

Dr. Margaret Blythe, an adolescent medicine specialist at Indiana University School of Medicine, said some doctors hesitate to discuss STDs with teen patients or offer screening because of confidentiality concerns, knowing parents would have to be told of the results.

Blythe, who heads an American Academy of Pediatrics committee on adolescence, noted that the academy supports confidential teen screening.

events

WEDNESDAY

12

Baseball vs. High Point
War Memorial Stadium
6 p.m., FREE

Bridges to Engineering Research Conference 2020
McNair Hall & Graham Hall
(Runs through Friday)

Poetry Night
Memorial Student Union
Commuter Lounge
8 p.m. - 10 p.m., FREE

NABJ 16th Annual BroadcastShort Course
Crosby Hall
(Pre-registration required, runs through Saturday)

THURSDAY

13

Battle of the Sexes
Memorial Student Union
Commuter Lounge
8 p.m. - 10 p.m., FREE

Climbing the Corporate Ladder
NCB A218 Auditorium
5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Greek Stroll Competition 2008
Moore Gym
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
\$2 A&T/\$5 non-A&T students

FRIDAY

14

Arts & Crafts Night
Memorial Student Union
Room 214
6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., FREE

Baseball vs. Radford
War Memorial Stadium
3 p.m. (Friday), 1 p.m. (Saturday), 1 p.m. (Sunday)

SATURDAY

15

Gospel Jam
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

FAFSA Day
Craig Hall 013 Computer Lab
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

SUNDAY

16

Baseball vs. Radford
War Memorial Stadium, 1 p.m.

MONDAY

17

Value in Art: Manet and the Slave Trade (Art Historian Henry Sayre)
NCB A218 Auditorium
4 p.m., FREE

TUESDAY

18

Baseball vs. Campbell
War Memorial Stadium
3 p.m.

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DIABETES From page 1

and also for those who have not been diagnosed with it. There are many things that we can all do as a black race to prevent it, or suppress its painful and deadly affects.

In order to fight off this disease, a change in our lifestyles is very important.

Diabetes is a self-managed disease, which means that we can control the disease ourselves by following simple guidelines. In order to prevent it, a lifestyle that includes eating healthier foods and becoming physically active is vital.

People who already have diabetes must also do this and report to their family doctor, take their prescribed medicines, and test their insulin levels regularly. This may seem like a lot, but it is very miniature when it comes to living a life free of sickness.

People with diabetes still have hope. Anyone can truly live and lead a successful life with diabetes as long as they take a proactive role in the decisions that they make with their bodies.

Diabetes is affecting the lives of all black people. Even if we personally do not have it, we probably have a family member, or know of someone who does have it.

If we all begin to band together and make some positive changes in our lives, we can beat this rising epidemic and live longer and fuller lives for ourselves and for our generations to come.

When safe sex and creativity collide

STACIE BAILEY
Register Reporter

One Boston based contraceptive company is taking prophylactic prose to new heights.

With names like The Legend™, Super Sensitive™ and Pleasure Dome™, Global Protection Corporation's One® Condoms line is making condom buyers take note.

One® Condoms came on the scene in February 2005 with a new twist to the regular appearance of condoms.

Instead of a square wrapper, One® Condoms are enclosed in a round wrapper with a new and refreshing design or picture designed by consumers.

This new appearance is not only more eye-catching in comparison to other brands, but it includes a "ONE-liner" caption to go with the picture.

So what's the motive? Why the sudden need to change

things up a bit? The motive behind Global Protection's idea is to make condoms socially acceptable and hopefully prevent unwanted pregnancies.

Justin Starks, a sophomore graphic communications major from Winston-Salem, can understand why and to whom there are marketing. "People are attracted to fancy designs," said Starks.

The company is not just about introducing a new product and seeing what happens, they've teamed up with celebrities such as Escalade of the And 1 Streetball team, MTV's Real World veterans Davis and Parisa, as well as beginning the ONE Voice Foundation in 2007 dedicated to getting the word out about safe sex.

David Wedel, founder and president of Global Protection, has made it his priority to inform individuals about sex education and make condoms that fit a person's taste as well

as individual personality.

"At Global, we develop choices that speak to our customers on an individual level," says Wedel.

By making the condoms with consumer designed visuals and a material called, Sensatex™, Wedel's vision became more of a reality.

Sensatex™ is an advanced latex material that aids in making One® Condoms smooth and soft with premium lubrication providing users with a more pleasurable experience. Instead of the usual cardboard box, One® Condoms are packaged in a sleek container containing at least three condoms and are available to order online or in participating CVS, Rite Aid and Kerr Drug pharmacies. Other condoms made by One® include the Studded ONE, the Roomier ONE and the Glowing ONE.

While getting people involved in spreading the word

about condoms is a good idea, not everyone is willing to use this product to do so.

Fred Rogers, a sophomore construction management major from Columbia, S.C., doesn't think that the new look will help sell them.

"I feel that people tend to go with something they have been using for a while and can continue to trust," said Rogers.

"Why [trade] something that is still working for you for something that you know nothing about?"

Even though Rogers admits that the designs on the condom wrappers are eye-catching, he intends to remain with the product he is used to. "I would stick with the most trusted, Trojan."

Sophomore Stephanie Hawley, a communication systems & technological studies major from Raleigh agrees with both Starks and Rogers to a certain degree.

"Personally, I think the condoms' appearance will increase the number of condoms sold, but I still don't think it will influence people to use them," says Hawley.

"Yeah, they might buy the condoms, but it will most likely be for show and not use, especially if the buyer wasn't using condoms before hand."

At their web site, visitors can register to design a wrapper of their own. Users and visitors of can vote on which newly designed wrappers they like and the design could end up on the shelves.

"I probably would [buy them] just because of the way it looks," said Starks. "I'm not gonna lie, it is catchy and if my mom did find this, I'm pretty sure she wouldn't know what it was. It looks like a piece of candy and it's more discreet."

One® Condoms might turn out to be just as the logo says, "Next Generation Condoms."



Probate slideshows

Available on www.ncatregister.com

Friday, March 14th

THE A&T REGISTER
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Buy one, get one FREE, Medium Iced Coffee

new
PREMIUM
ROAST
ICED
COFFEE



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N.Y. governor spent as much as \$80,000 on prostitutes

INSERT NAME
Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — With pressure mounting on Gov. Eliot Spitzer to resign over a call-girl scandal, investigators said Tuesday he was clearly a repeat customer who spent tens of thousands of dollars — perhaps as much as \$80,000 — with the high-priced prostitution service over an extended period of time.

Spitzer and his family, meanwhile, remained secluded in their Fifth Avenue apartment, while Republicans began talking impeachment, and few if any fellow Democrats came forward to defend him. A death watch of sorts began at the state Capitol, where whispers of “What have you heard?” echoed through nearly every hallway of the ornate, 109-year-old building.

On Monday, when the scandal broke, prosecutors said in court papers that Spitzer had been caught on a wiretap spending \$4,300 with the Emperors Club VIP call-girl service, with some of the money going toward a night with a prostitute named Kristen, and the rest to be used as credit toward future trysts. The papers also suggested that Spitzer had done this before.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a law enforcement official said Tuesday that Spitzer, in fact, had spent tens of thousands of dollars with the Emperors Club. Another official said the amount could be as high as \$80,000. But it was not clear over what period of time that was spent.

Still another law enforcement official said investigators found that during the tryst with Kristen on the night before Valentine’s Day, Spitzer used two rooms at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington — one for himself, the other for the prostitute. Sometime around 10 p.m., Spitzer sneaked away from his security detail and made his way to the room where she was waiting, the official said. The three officials spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the case.

In the court papers, an Emperors Club employee was quoted as telling Kristen that Client 9 — Spitzer, according to investigators — “would ask you to do things that ... you might not think were safe,” and Kristen responded by saying: “I have a way of dealing with that. ... I’d be, like, listen, dude, you really want the sex?”

A law enforcement official said Tuesday the discussion had to do with Spitzer’s preference not to wear a condom and the call-girl’s insistence that he use one.

Spitzer’s vast personal wealth would have made it easy for him to spend thousands of dollars on prostitutes. The scion of a wealthy Manhattan real estate developer, Spitzer reported

\$1.9 million in income to the IRS in 2006.

Meanwhile, Albany insiders on Tuesday said the governor was still trying to decide how to proceed. Options included quitting immediately, or waiting to use resignation as a bargaining chip with federal prosecutors to avoid indictment.

Democrats privately floated another option, telling The Associated Press that Spitzer was considering what was almost unthinkable immediately after Monday’s bombshell apology: hanging on.

“If the public is fine, he’ll stay,” said a Democrat who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the subject.

Still, Spitzer’s many enemies from Albany and Wall Street were emboldened, and some of his friends went from shock to outrage.

“Particularly because of the reform platform on which he was elected governor, his ability to govern the state of New York and execute his duties as governor have been irreparably damaged,” said Citizens Union, a good-government group that supported the crusading attorney general for governor in 2006. “It is our strong belief that it is now impossible for him to fulfill his responsibilities as governor. Accordingly, Citizens Union urges him to resign as governor.”

The case against Spitzer, a 48-year-old married man with three teenage daughters, started when banks noticed frequent cash transfers from several accounts and filed suspicious-activity reports with the Internal Revenue Service, a law enforcement official told the AP. The accounts were traced back to Spitzer, prompting public corruption investigators to open an inquiry.

The governor has not been charged, and prosecutors would not comment on the case.

In Albany, Democratic Lt. Gov. David Paterson, who would become governor if Spitzer resigned, was talking to legislative leaders about a possible transition.

Reporters, government workers and the public milled around the state Capitol on Tuesday, waiting for any developments. News vans lined up around the building, and camera operators sat next to their tripods on the front lawn waiting for something to happen.

Assembly Republican leader James Tedisco warned that if Spitzer did not resign within 48 hours, he would call for impeachment. But any impeachment would face a difficult road in the Democrat-controlled Assembly, where articles impeachment would require a majority vote to go to a trial. A trial would be decided by a combined vote of the full Senate, which has a slim GOP majority, and the Court of Appeals.

Tedisco was an early target of Spitzer’s abrasive and uncompromising style in Albany. In a private call, an angry Spitzer once described himself to Tedisco as a “steamroller” — he attached a profanity for emphasis — and warned: “I’ll roll over you and anybody else.”

Privately, several Democrats in the Legislature and in the administration said resignation appeared inevitable. “He’s weighing the rest of his life,” one Democratic official said sadly.

Late Tuesday, freshman Rep. Kirsten Gillibrand became the first Democratic member of New York’s congressional delegation to mention resignation. “This is very grave and sad news,” she said. “If these serious allegations are true, the governor will have no choice but to resign.”

But more than a day after the scandal broke, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and other senior Democrats in the delegation had yet to call on Spitzer to quit.

On Wall Street, where Spitzer built his reputation as a crusader against shady practices and overly generous compensation, cheers and laughter erupted Monday from the trading floor when news broke of his potential ruin.

Many in the financial industry had long complained that the man known as “Mr. Clean” and the “Sheriff of Wall Street” was a sanctimonious bully who was just trying to advance his political career. Many Wall Streeters were delighted to see him get his comeuppance.

“The irony and the hypocrisy is almost too good to be true,” said Bryn Dolan, a fundraiser who works with many Wall Street employees. “If he had any shame, he would’ve already resigned.”

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Gas prices continue to reach new heights

JOHN WILEN
Associated Press

NEW YORK The cost of filling up the family car climbed to a record high Tuesday, adding to the challenges consumers already face with falling home values and rising food prices.

Gas prices at the pump rose overnight to a record national average of \$3.2272 a gallon, according to AAA and the Oil Price Information Service. That's a tad higher than the previous record of \$3.2265, set last May.

Soaring gas prices worsen the financial plight of consumers already suffering through a downturn in the housing market that has sharply reduced home prices in many markets and limited Americans' ability to tap home equity for spending. Food prices are also on the rise, partly due to rising fuel costs.

"I used to think three bucks a gallon was all I'd pay, but I keep filling up," said Joe Gowans while gassing his Acura SUV in San Francisco one recent afternoon. "You have to use it."

A year ago, rising demand and a string of refinery outages had raised concerns about supplies. Now, the record price of crude oil is the culprit,

propelling gas higher although supplies are at 15-year highs.

On Tuesday, light sweet crude for April delivery surged to a new trading record of \$109.72 on the New York Mercantile Exchange before retreating after the Energy Department and International Energy Agency cut crude consumption forecasts for this year. Futures settled 85 cents higher at \$108.75 a barrel, a new record.

Where gas and oil go from here is anybody's guess. Many analysts expect prices to moderate, while others predict oil could keep rising to \$120 a barrel, or higher. And with demand for gas expected to rise as warm weather arrives, analysts say pump prices could spike as high as \$3.75 a gallon, regardless of what happens with oil prices. The Energy Department on Tuesday raised its forecast of how high prices will rise this spring by a dime to \$3.50 a gallon.

"I've got to say, if they ever go up to \$3.50, that would be the point where I'd feel angry," said Alex Magby, a Morrisville, Pa., resident who was filling up his tank near his New Jersey restaurant job one recent afternoon. "I'd feel cheated at that point."

High prices are painful to New York cab drivers like Brandis Younge, who spends \$35 to \$40 on gas each day.

"Before it skyrocketed, I used to pay \$25," Younge said.

Still, because gas is so expensive, analysts expect demand for fuel will rise more slowly this spring and summer than in previous years. Nationwide demand for gasoline is off by about 1 percent over the last 6 weeks, a trend analysts expect to accelerate if prices keep rising.

"We don't go visit family as much," said Steve Bagosy, of Pocono, Pa., while gassing up a company car in Manhattan Tuesday. "Just try to stay local."

The effect can be seen in states such as California, where prices are consistently 30 cents higher than the national average. Last November, the latest month for which data is available, demand for gasoline fell by 3.7 percent from the previous year in California as prices soared past \$3.40 a gallon.

"It evokes a real reaction in demand destruction above \$3.25 a gallon," said Tom Kloza, publisher and chief oil analyst at the Oil Price Information Service in Wall, N.J.

Prices have already passed the \$4 mark at many stations nationwide. But Kloza thinks slower demand growth will prevent the national average from rising that high.

High gas prices may actually help some companies that rely on tourism. Carl Wilgus, executive director of the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau, said the number of skiers visiting the Pennsylvania ski region this winter was up, despite gas prices holding steady above \$3 for most of that time. In part, that's because many people plan vacations closer to home when fuel is so expensive, he said, giving up a trip to Florida in favor of a ski vacation an hour away, he said.

"We'll definitely lose some visitation, but hopefully we'll gain some from the folks who hope to stay closer to home," Wilgus said.

The price of gassing a recreational vehicle may induce some to look for campgrounds closer to home this summer. At \$3.50 a gallon, a 100-gallon Winnebago Destination RV will cost \$350 to fill, \$27 more than right now, and \$96 more than a year ago.

Analysts believe oil's underlying supply and demand fundamentals

do not support such high prices, and argue that crude's rise in recent months is mostly due to the falling dollar. Crude futures offer a hedge against a falling dollar, and oil futures bought and sold in dollars are more attractive to foreign investors when the dollar is weak.

The Energy Department and IEA, an energy consultant to western, industrialized nations, raised more concerns about the economic slowdown's impact on oil consumption Tuesday when both forecasters cut U.S. demand growth forecasts, but said strong demand overseas will keep prices elevated this year.

In other Nymex trading Tuesday, April heating oil futures rose 2.23 cents to settle at \$2.9957 a gallon while April gasoline futures rose 1.12 cents to settle at \$2.7261 a gallon.

April natural gas futures fell 2.4 cents to settle at \$10 per 1,000 cubic feet on the Nymex.

In London, April Brent crude futures rose \$1.09 to settle at \$105.25 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

(AP Business Writers Tali Arbel in New York and Jordan Robertson in San Francisco contributed to this report.)



PHOTO BY LEROY MIKELL - A&T REGISTER

RECORD HIGHS The gas pump is in the runnings to have its jersey retired. Crude oil prices are making consumers dig a little deeper into their pockets as the numbers on the pump reach for the sky.

Share your ideas with
the A&T Register. Contributors meetings are held
every Wednesday at 5p.m.
in NCB 328A



BIZBRIEFS

GOOGLE INKS SERIOUS DEAL WITH DOUBLE C.

Google Inc.'s long-anticipated acquisition of online ad service DoubleClick Inc. is expected to turn the Internet search leader into an even more powerful marketing vehicle that's fueled by better insights about consumers. The \$3.1 billion deal, completed Tuesday after nearly a year of regulatory wrangling, also may intensify the pressure on Microsoft Corp. and Yahoo Inc. to resolve their stormy courtship so they don't risk further distractions while Google tries to sprint further ahead in the race for Internet advertising. Google took control of Double C. The deal that was first announced 11 months ago.

—AP

BOTTLED WATER HAS TO MEET NEW STANDARDS.

The federal standards for acceptable levels of pharmaceutical residue in bottled water are the same as those for tap water — there aren't any. The Food and Drug Administration, which regulates the \$12 billion bottled water industry in the United States, sets limits for chemicals, bacteria and radiation, but doesn't address pharmaceuticals. Some water that's bottled comes from pristine, often underground rural sources; other brands have a source no more remote than local tap water.

—AP

PRECIOUS METAL PRICES RISE SLIGHTLY.

Gold prices rose modestly Tuesday after the U.S. Federal Reserve announced it would pump up to \$200 billion in liquidity into the financial system to help ease a global credit crunch. Other precious metals also rose Tuesday. Silver for May delivery added 6.5 cents to \$19.85.

—AP

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No love for the 'L' word

DEXTER MULLINS
Contributor

There is a word in the English language that I absolutely hate.

No it's not the dreaded "N" word, or any of the wonderful four letter adjectives that we're all so fond of. The word I hate is love.

It seems so simple, why hate it? Well I'm glad you asked. The reason I hate L-O-V-E is because people throw it around like it has no significance in the lives of others.

Like when people talk about how much they "LOVE" A&T, when what they really want to say is there about two parking tickets short of burning the school down.

Or how people say they "LOVE" their job, when what they wish they were brave enough to say is how much their micro-managing boss has just fried their last nerves.

Now, lets get down to the root of the reason why I, and so many other people, hate this word. If people casually throw it around like they do in the afore mentioned examples, how can they possibly mean it when they say "I LOVE YOU" to someone else? And how can you love someone else when you don't even love yourself?

Lets face it, as a society, we have just lost sight of what love really is. I remember when people would say that love was eternal, that it came from the inside and took peoples relationships to the next level.

Now it serves as the fuel for the destruction of so many people's lives. If you know that you don't want to be with someone, you shouldn't drag them along for five or six months, making them think that there is actually some kind of emotional connection between the two of you.

The second you get courageous enough to say what you really want, you realize how much damage your about to cause, and then you land in the "friending zone," and once you decide to be "just friends," you just hammer the nails in the coffin of the other persons emotions.

Now all their friends, family, and people that serve as support are left with the aftermath you have created, because you couldn't step up and not throw around a four letter word like it was nothing.

You have become the Katrina to New Orleans in the scenario, and not only are you leaving the other person destroyed and devastated, you feel like the biggest jerk in history.

Sounds like fun right? I didn't think so. Instead of following the yellow brick road to relationship hell, why not stop at the crossroads and evaluate before you tell someone you love them?



**WHAT'S
THE WORD
AGGIES?**

Reliving Martin Luther King's dream through Obama

SYENE JASMIN
Contributor

During an October night, I navigated through the internet and visited Facebook.

I read the status of one of my friends, and highlighted that she was going to see Barack Obama at North Carolina Central University. I quickly sought the information for the event, and then realized he would be coming that upcoming Thursday.

Quite honestly, I was interested in this event, because he was a man of African descent running for President. Although one may disagree, the only African American leader that has been upheld positively by the majority of this nation is Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

On a Thursday afternoon, four friends of mine, along with another one who was meeting us there, set sail for a 45 minute trip to Durham.

When we finally arrived at the stadium, I became impressed by the crowd's diversity. But what really amazed me was the fact that most of the attendees weren't African American, in fact NCCU is a historically black college university and most of the people there were of European descent. Although this may sound cliché, I was very surprised to see the amount of white support for Obama.

The speech was great and very moving. There I first heard Obama's signature chant, "fired up, ready to go!" as thousands of spectators followed the Illinois Senator.

Along with his chants, Obama displayed his natural charisma and gave his ideas about fostering change for this nation. Although the speech wasn't long, the way he spoke was reminiscent of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and influenced me enough to volunteer in his campaign.

The campaign manager stated "we need help in South Carolina, if you want to go down there take my card and contact me, but we need all you people to come out and support."

After receiving numerous emails, I then told my family I was going to South Carolina during the Christmas break. My mother then agreed, but importantly asked, where would be the place I would reside in South Carolina.

Although I was enthusiastic about the trip to South Caro-

lina, I was taking a risk because I was traveling in unfamiliar territory, along with having little money and didn't have a guaranteed place to stay. But unlike most of fellow schoolmates, I didn't travel straight home for the break and instead took a 5 hour trip to Columbia, SC.

When I arrived, I was greeted by the student coordinator and was introduced to fellow volunteers, that consisted of a diverse ethnic group of people that all were working. I then would follow this trend as I was given a script and directed to make phone calls to voters in the area. Even though I was already enjoying myself, that same night I was told, I would be leaving in the morning to travel to Orangeburg, S.C.

When I arrived in Orangeburg, I wasn't greeted by another diverse group of Americans, but instead with the predominant African American population. During that night I also met my patron, who graciously allowed me to stay in her home during my week. I couldn't believe that a person was so nice to me and even sacrificed her home for a "complete stranger."

When I thanked her and hinted my question on why would she do this, she responded by using a reference to the Bible and stated "if this it takes to get Obama in office then I will do it."

As I worked that week, I started to learn more about Obama and realized he had the same morals and ideas of equality as Dr. King. Obama like King was able to attribute to the masses of people, black, white Hispanic etc. King fought for poverty stricken people and jobs they lost, and like the Civil Rights leader, Obama has done it already in the Southside of Chicago.

After my week's stay, I was determined to go back to Orangeburg, but most importantly during their primaries on January 26th. Significantly Dr. King's memorial weekend was right before the primaries.

When I left the Orangeburg office there were only about 8 people working there at a time. But now the settings changed, there was now 3 offices and featured more than 60 people working out of all of them.

I was now surprised by the amount of college students present. For example, there were students from institutions like Chapel Hill, Duke Georgetown and many more, including people from the past primaries in New Hampshire

and Iowa.

Since I was accustomed to the office and the work accompanied with it, I was assigned a leadership role by coordinating fellow students.

Although we were all working for the campaign, I didn't realize the magnitude of how powerful that moment was, because there was black, white, Hispanic etc students working for the common cause of "change."

On primary day which was Saturday, on January 26th, the moment of truth was designated for South Carolinians. I spent my day in St. Matthews and unlike Orangeburg, it is located in Calhoun County and carries a small population of 2,000 people.

Calhoun County is one of the poorest counties in South Carolina, and St. Matthews is a direct effect of the low socioeconomic factors, and is worsened by an 86 percent high school dropout rate. Therefore I didn't expect the voter turnout to be good for St. Matthews.

However, as I traveled throughout the town and spoke to the residents, I realized that most of the people exercised their vote for change in America, and change that would eventually trickled down to St. Matthews.

Small impoverished towns like St. Matthews is where King gained supporters through his grassroots movement, which is how Obama gained supporters. During a conversation with an elderly woman of St. Matthews, she stated "King was a prophet and Obama is a prophet just like King was." Obama went on to win South Carolina that night and in fact, Calhoun County came in second place, as it held the second largest margin of victory for Obama.

That night was history and I'm proud to be a piece of it. King once stated "We may all have come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now."

The volunteers of South Carolina came from different parts of the nation, fighting for "change." If people continue to follow these footsteps, "change" is something we can definitely believe in.

In King's famous dream he hoped that people wouldn't be judged by the color of their skin, but rather by the content of their character. Although this hasn't happened enough since more than 40 years after King's death, Obama's message keeps King's dream alive.

IS IT JUST ME?

Playing with a parents' emotions

MICHAEL J. MCCRAY
Editor In Chief

I usually don't have a beef with the way people in the media choose to target their audiences.

Whether it's BET cutting its news department in favor of umm...something or local news stations claiming to be the best thing since sliced bread because they have a dopler radar but what I do have a problem with is the way CNN's Nancy Grace consistently plays with the psyches of naïve mothers everywhere.

Nightly she uses sensationalist journalism tactics and vivid imagery to attack the traditional values of these women and recently used the death of UNC student body president Eve Carson as her vehicle.

Grace, nearing tears as she usually is, linked the similarities between the death of Carson and of another woman at Auburn University. Alright, I'll go with that. Both of them were white, female, college students. Each was gunned down and left to die, both of them were seemingly on their way to bright futures. All great points, but to suggest that one death may have been a crime of passion as one of her guests that night did and then to seriously entertain the thought that the other was the work of a copycat killer is utterly insane.

I give Nancy Grace all the credit in the world for raising logical questions on her show and trying to fill the gaps in every story but she habitually comes up with extreme scenarios to answer those questions and the tragedy in this is that somewhere out there there's a mother with a daughter in college, who's already worried sick and eating this crap up.

It's not enough that they've had to endure shootings at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois in the past year or the fact that could have just as easily been any one of their children, Grace, who worked as a prosecutor before her television career and was even called out by The Supreme Court of Georgia during that time for taking her arguments too far, feels the need to sensationalize these tragedies with a television act eerily similar to the woman at the funeral wailing over the casket of a person she barely knew.

Her 'this could happen to you' style does nothing to ease the stress of a parent. Even worse is playing with their emotions during a time when their heart goes out to a fellow mother or father in pain is flat out wrong and that's what Grace, who recently had twins, did the other night by raising reckless concerns for an already distraught public.

Bad things happen to good people all the time. Random acts of violence are just that, random, and Grace of all people should know that having lived through the murder of her fiancé by a coworker. Whether it's the person that volunteers with sick children and dies in a car accident or in this case a campus leader killed in cold blood, there is very little a parent can do to stop that.

No amount of love makes bad things go away. But these parents blinded by the sadness take Grace's advice and become overbearing and over-protective, none of which makes their child any less invincible, if anything it makes them resent the fact that they haven't been able to live because the parent isn't able to let go.

Good parenting in this country is at an all-time low, as evidenced by another segment of Grace's show in which a mother sprayed her child with a pressure hose. A good parent is concerned about their children, their safety, their lives and the lives of people around them but senseless violence doesn't skip a family just because a parent calls four times a day.

I know my mother worries about me, especially when she hasn't heard from me and hears news about another mother, with a child near my age having to go through something as tragic as Carson's case. Situations like that will always hit close to home for her but one thing I love my mother for is not letting her concerns get in the way of me living life and I know when she peppers in a "be safe" or "be careful" at the end of a conversation, that's her way of getting those worries off her chest.

Maybe it's because I'm not a parent that I don't fully understand where Grace is coming from but at some point parents have to let their children go out in the world and live, the same way someone else let them go, and as much as it sucks to say, it is a cruel world but to feed of the sorrow of millions of viewers is an even crueler joke on Nancy Grace's part.



MICHAEL J. MCCRAY

What's your worth?

Race and money determine your worth in America

ASHLEY REID
Register Reporter

Issues such as Katrina, gangs, racism, and class inequalities make me wonder what the worth of human life is.

Hurricane Katrina was one of the most traumatic disasters in America specifically the black community.

The amount of lives that were lost made blacks reevaluate whether their lives held any worth in America. Even after all of the media rage the situation received, there was no sign of help until two weeks after the accident.

There were people still in the waters waiting to be rescued, but animals had trucks and rescuers to come get them?

Now I have nothing against animals, but do you think that animals would have had rescuers before the most famous people in America if they were caught in a tragedy? Let's be real, Katrina demonstrated just how much the American government thought of the lives in New Orleans.

Gang violence is another spreading epidemic in many communities. Young lives are lost everyday to the

battle of the streets. Not one solution has been made in full effort to resolve this problem.

Our police departments seem to just "give up", and I feel it's because they don't believe we are worth the fight. Yes, a lot of these corrections could be made within our homes, but pointing the finger isn't going to stop it.

Since I witnessed gang violence back home, I struggle to understand how it hasn't been controlled. I want to know how many lives have to be lost in order for our communities to take a serious approach to the problem.

When we look at racism we see how it still exists and shown in cases such as Megan Williams, I wonder how many more black women, or women period have to be raped in order for us to reach overall equality. America continues to overlook the issues as if they are bad things that randomly happened.

I feel like our society picks and chooses what issues can be discussed and which ones can be ignored. We've seen constantly how issues dealing with blacks or the working class have been put on the back burner.

That is ridiculous! We are the foundation for this country, yet we can't be recognized like any other American because we don't have the same worth in society's eyes? That sounds like a personal problem if you don't want to listen in on issues that affect everyone.

We have also allowed social classes to determine our worth in America. If you do not have enough money to buy healthcare, you get the worst form of healthcare.

If you have a low income, you are forced to live in poverty conditions. It seems as if the American culture has put a price on life.

Since when did money and race become legitimate reasons to determine our worth in this country?

Everyday we wake up and face the same challenges in a society that doesn't equally acknowledge us all. How many tragedies, murders, or poverty stricken households will it take for our country to take a serious look at these issues?

I don't know about you, but I don't want to wait until the next blow is too close to home before taking action. Life is priceless and no man or anything materialized can determine its worth.

Gotta get something off your chest?

WRITE IT HERE

and let the therapy begin!

**EDITOR@
NCATREGISTER.COM**

Keep Rollin'



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AGGIES RUNDOWN

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
North Carolina A&T	15-1	23-6
Coppin State	13-3	19-11
Delaware State	12-4	17-13
Morgan State	10-6	18-11
Hampton	10-6	17-12
MD Eastern-Shore	10-6	17-12
South Carolina State	9-7	12-16
Florida A&M	3-13	13-16
Howard	3-13	4-25
Bethune-Cookman	2-14	6-23
Norfolk State	1-15	5-22

THIS WEEK'S GAMES:
The MEAC Tournament
RBC Center
Raleigh, N.C.
Tues. - Sat.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
Morgan State	7-0	18-3
Hampton	5-2	6-14
Norfolk State	3-3	4-19
Delaware State	2-2	5-17
North Carolina A&T	2-6	10-15
Florida A&M	0-6	1-18
South Carolina State	4-0	7-5
Coppin State	2-2	5-9
Bethune-Cookman	2-3	5-20
Howard	1-2	2-21
MD Eastern-Shore	1-3	7-16

THIS WEEK'S GAMES:
The MEAC Tournament
RBC Center
Raleigh, N.C.
Tues. - Sat.

SOFTBALL

NORTHERN DIVISION

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
Delaware State	0-0	5-3
Morgan State	0-0	1-1
Hampton	0-0	2-4
Howard	0-0	0-2

SOUTHERN DIVISION

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
North Carolina A&T	0-0	10-2
Florida A&M	0-0	2-7
Bethune-Cookman	0-0	3-13
Norfolk State	0-0	1-7
South Carolina State	0-0	0-6

THIS WEEK'S GAME:
Sunday
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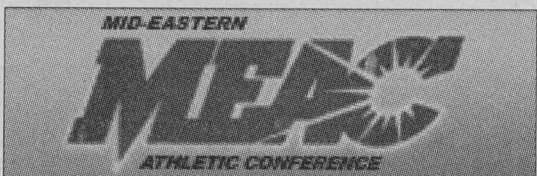
BASEBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
Bethune=Cookman	0-0	5-3
Norfolk State	0-0	3-4
North Carolina State	0-0	3-6
Florida A&M	0-0	1-5
MD Eastern-Shore	0-0	0-9
Delaware State	0-0	0-8
Coppin State	0-0	0-10

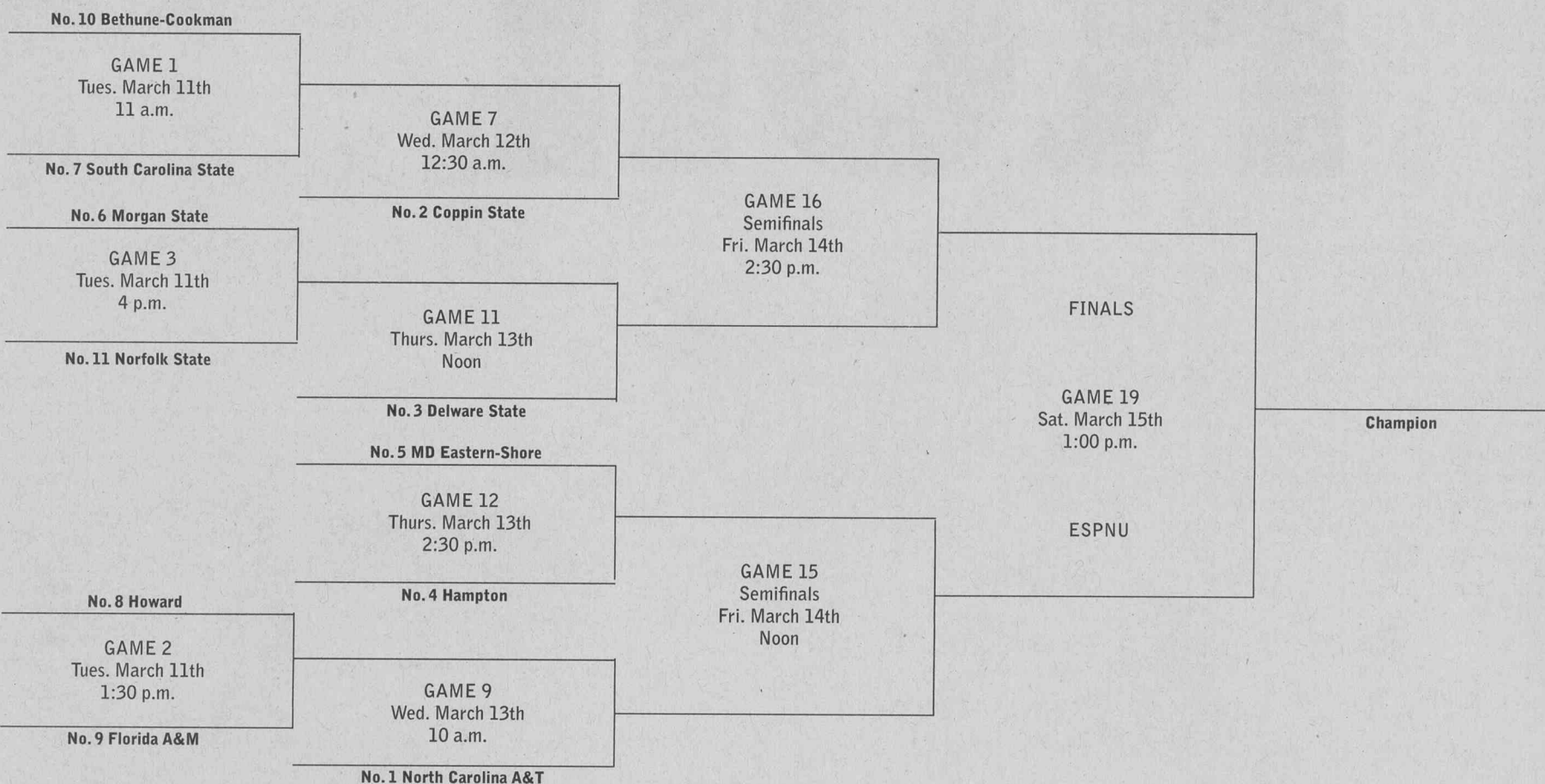
THIS WEEK'S GAME:
Tuesday
UNC-Asheville
War Memorial Stadium
3 p.m.

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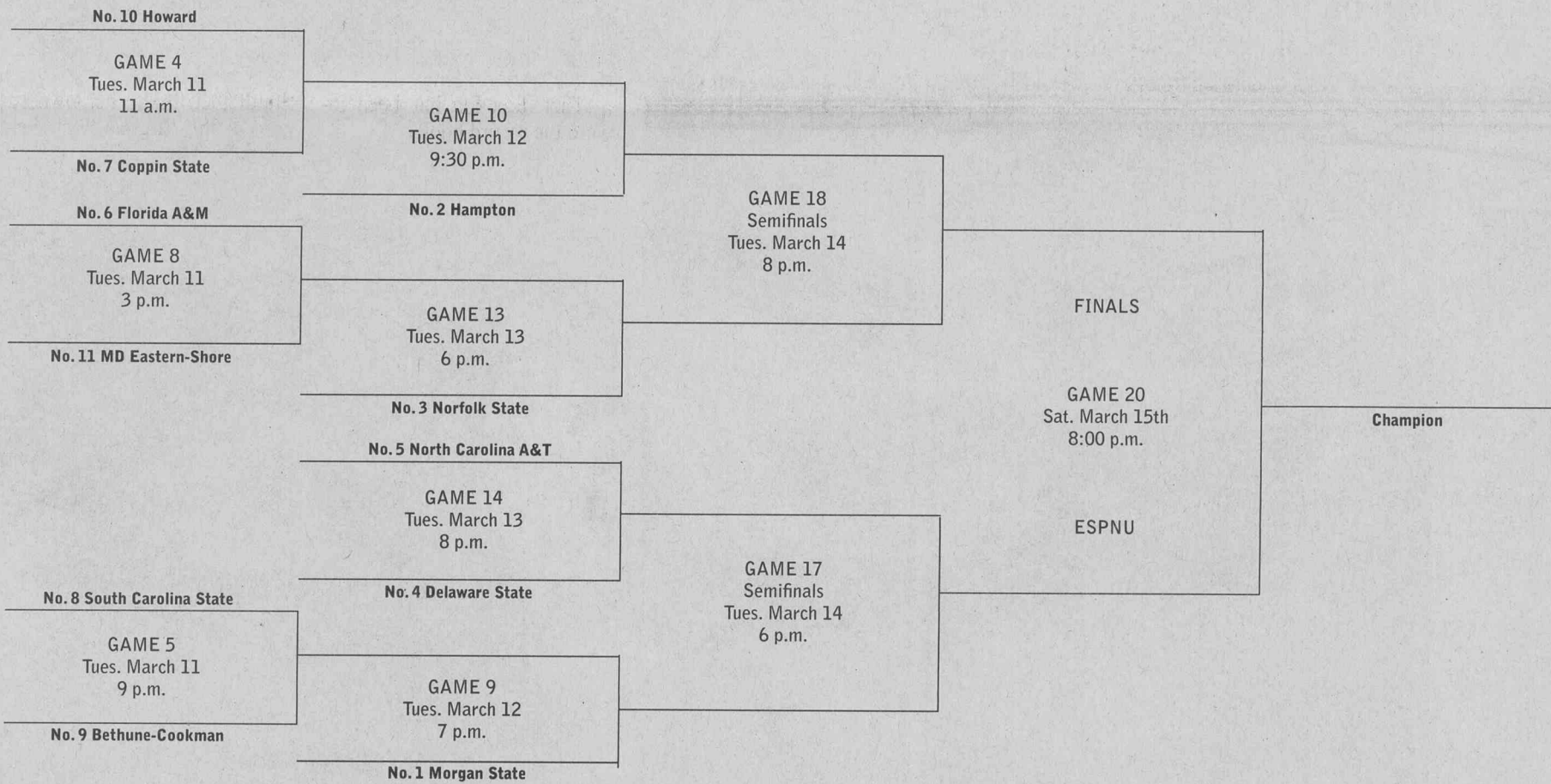
MEAC Bracketology



Women's Bracket



Men's Bracket



MEAC Tournament is only the beginning of the Lady Aggies concerns

DANIEL HENDERSON
Register Reporter

The Lady Aggies 2007-08 regular season can best be described in three words - dominant, disturbing, and determined. The "dominance" is referring to the margin of victory era of 19.6 points per game over conference opponents.

An 85-84 nail-biting defeat caused "disturbance" to the blue and gold, after the ladies surrendered the loss one game away from inheriting its first undefeated season in school history.

Now A&T (23-6, 17-1) seems "determined", with passion to make up for falling short of a perfect season with a MEAC title.

"I dream big," said head coach Patricia Cage-Bibbs following the Hampton loss. "And the great thing now is that we have their attention. Sometimes when you lose you win because it's painful for them right now. They're hurting. So if they don't want to

feel this pain again they better come to play every night because when you get into that tournament it's one and done."

If the women basketball team really pondered these words, a three game sweep in the tournament this week should not be far-fetched for the regular season champions.

Although the Lady Aggies were ranked # 2 in the conference last season in post-play, the young squad fell short in the first round to the Florida A&M Rattlers 71-69.

Florida A&M did not last much longer after eventual MEAC champion Delaware State decimated the Rattlers in the next round.

Revenge may be sweeter than ever for A&T when the two teams meet again Wednesday in the second round, as the Rattlers will try to play spoiler for the second consecutive post-season.

The Lady Aggies won the previous battle between the two teams 64-57 in Tallahas-

see, FL.

A&T finished this season breaking the school record for most regular season and conference wins in a season, and the highest winning percentage in the history of North Carolina A&T.

Four players on the blue and gold's roster walked away with conference honors.

Junior Amber Bland was awarded first team all-MEAC for the second consecutive year, while junior Brittane Taylor-James and sophomore Ta'Wuana Cook earned second-team honors.

This season also marked the second straight year a Lady Aggie has placed on the all-rookie team with freshman Jaleesa Sams landing a spot despite missing multiple games during her stellar debut.

With the many rewards A&T women seemingly deserved and received in the 2007-08 campaign, the bar for coach of the year was one significant achievement set weeks before the conference voting.

Aggies plan to seize the moment in Raleigh

MALCOLM S. EUSTACHE
Sports Editor

It has been a season of ups and downs for the men of A&T. Pre-season polls that predicted them to finish in 3rd place may have been a bit trigger happy as inconsistency seemingly stained even their cleanest performances.

Even so, the Aggies dug their feet in just deep enough to earn themselves a fifth place ranking, and a first-round bye. They did that by defeating the then No.2 and now No.3 team in the MEAC, Norfolk State, 72 - 70 on an emphatic game-winning dunk by senior forward Jason Wills.

"It's just a decision I had to make; whether to find the open man or go the basket myself," said Wills. "I saw a wide-open lane and took my opportunity."

And there may not have been a more opportune time to begin playing as passionately as they have been thus far. It is that type of enthusiasm that Eaves and his staff have been looking for

if they have any hopes of bringing home a MEAC title.

"We needed that game going into the tournament," said Head Coach Jerry Eaves. "As everyone knows, if we're hitting shots, we're capable of winning six or seven games in a row. That's why we like our chances in the tournament."

As the past has called it, success in the regular season does not always translate to the tournament. Florida A&M won last year's conference tournament despite Delaware State boasting the most impressive regular-season record. Morgan State dethroned the Hornets from winning the season title this year.

With seven seniors parting ways from Aggie Land after this season, including one of the best players in A&T basketball history in guard Steven Rush, it is the last chance for this bunch to seal the deal and complete their unfinished business.

"Steven Rush rescued this program when this program needed him most," said Coach Eaves.

Woman drops restraining order against Randy Moss

CURT ANDERSON
Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — A woman who obtained a restraining order earlier this year in a domestic violence case against New England Patriots star Randy Moss wants the case dismissed, court records show.

Rachelle Washington, 35, filed papers March 3 with the Broward County Circuit Court clerk's office requesting that the order be dissolved and the case closed. The restraining order had required the All-Pro wide receiver to stay at least 500 feet from Washington.

Moss, 31, denied he harmed Washington as she claimed at her Florida home on Jan. 6, or that he prevented her from seeking medical attention. Moss did acknowledge there was an "accident" involving Washington, but would not be more specific.

Moss' attorney Richard Sharpstein said Tuesday his client was "extremely pleased" by the outcome.

Moss plans to submit a claim to his insurance company for medical bills for services such as X-rays that Washington had



Moss

for a hand injury, Sharpstein added.

"There has finally been acknowledgment that the injuries were not intentionally inflicted,"

Sharpstein said.

An attorney for Washington said "no such acknowledgment exists."

Washington had been acting "solely on the advice of her former attorney" when she filed temporary restraining orders, Darrell Thompson said in a statement.

"She has decided that such restraining order is unnecessary," Thompson said.

"Because the injuries sustained were not the result of any malicious intent by Mr. Moss, a claim for her damages will be submitted to his insurance company."

The restraining order was issued Jan. 14 after Washington accused Moss of "battery causing serious injury" in a civil domestic violence case. It came just as the Patriots were making

their playoff run to the Super Bowl and angling for an undefeated season, which ended in a loss to the New York Giants.

Days before the AFC championship game, Moss said the claims were "false allegations" and that Washington had demanded a payment of "six figures" before taking legal action. He acknowledged knowing the woman for about 11 years.

"In my whole entire life of living 30 years, I've never put a hand on one woman, physically or in an angry manner," Moss told reporters in mid-January.

Moss has had other off-the-field problems in his 10 years in the NFL, including a 2002 incident in which he bumped a traffic control officer with his car and another in 2001 when he verbally abused corporate sponsors on a team bus. But since his acquisition by the Patriots last April, he has been viewed as a team leader.

He had another stellar year on the field in 2007, catching 98 passes for 1,493 yards and an NFL-record 23 touchdowns. For his career, Moss has 774 receptions for 12,193 yards and 124 touchdowns.



PHOTO BY LEROY MIKELL - REGISTER

Alexandria Spruiel proves that practice makes perfect

Smith, Spruiel make A&T track history

MALCOLM S. EUSTACHE
Sports Editor

After what was somewhat of a disappointing 3rd place performance by the women of A&T at the 2008 MEAC Indoor Championships, junior sprinter Alexandria Spruiel and junior hurdler Loreal Smith both qualified for the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships. They became the first Aggies in history to accomplish such a feat.

"They are great representatives of the university," said Roy 'Spaceman' Thompson, director of track and field programs. "They have been so vital to our program because they are outstanding leaders and they give our other athletes something to stride toward. They have certainly turned our program in the right direction."

That direction has been toward the record books.

Spruiel has been nothing short of legendary this season establishing herself as a force to be reckoned with in the lanes. Her outstanding season has been solidified by breaking the school record in the 400 meters at UNC-Chapel Hill with a time of 56.69 and the 500 meters at the Virginia Tech Indoor Invitational with a time of 1:12.70.

She then went on to break her own record in the 400 meters — twice. Once by clocking a 54.62 at the Penn State Indoor National Invitational; then again

by posting a mind-numbing 53.48 at the Virginia Tech Last Chance Meet. The one-time MEAC Track & Field Athlete of the Week has moved into the top ten nationally.

"Spruiel is a tremendous athlete," said Thompson. "She had a breakout year last year, but she is not the kind of athlete who is going to settle for having just one good season. She is going to continue to train hard, work on her mechanics, and her strength. You see how hard she works and you know she is going to continue to do well."

But Spruiel is not the only Aggie bringing pride to A&T.

Smith was in a record-breaking mood this season as well, making her mark on the 60-meter hurdles time with a school-record 8.46 at the Penn State Indoor National Invitational. Smith then broke her own record at the Virginia Tech Last Chance Meet in the same event with a time of 8.19 moving her into the top ten nationally as well.

"We want to be a nationally recognized program and this is a step toward that," said Thompson. "Year in and year out we want athletes qualifying for nationals and competing for national championships."

That will mean we are doing well in other meets, including winning our [indoor and outdoor] conference championships."

AROUND SPORTS

College Hoops:

Top ranked North Carolina won the ACC regular season title with a 76-68 win at Duke; Wisconsin and Georgetown also won conference titles; Three teams qualified for the NCAA tournament.

Jones in Jail:

Marion Jones began her six-month sentence in federal prison Friday. Jones admitted lying to investigators about using performance-enhancing drugs and her role in a check-fraud scam.

Big Ben's Big Payday:

Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger signed an eight-year extension worth \$102 million that makes him one of the NFL's highest-paid players.

NASCAR:

NASCAR drivers Carl Edwards, Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Jeff Burton say the next two races, in Atlanta and Bristol, each pose some problems for them.

Clemens' Hall Chances:

As the FBI investigates whether Roger Clemens lied in sworn testimony about steroids, writers continue to debate on the effect that probe might have on the pitcher's Hall of Fame chances.

Rockets Making Records:

The Rockets are on the NBA's longest winning streak this season and have set a franchise record. They have been playing of late without injured Yao Ming and have won their last nine games by double digits.

Sampras vs. Federer:

Pete Sampras, the best tennis player of his generation, takes on Roger Federer, the best of his, in a best-of-three-set exhibition match at sold-out Madison Square Garden.

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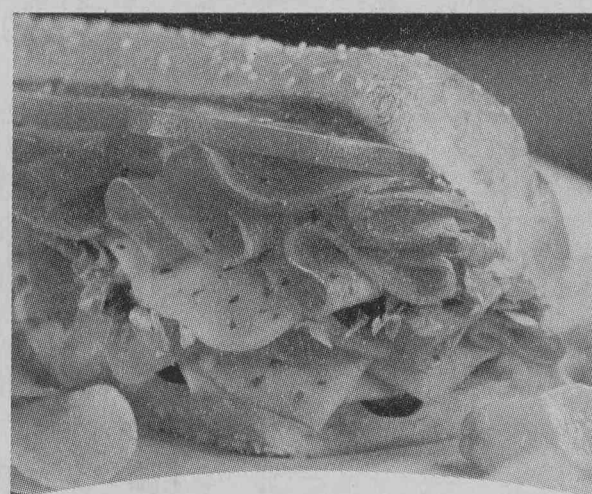
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Madonna's pop leads Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

DAVID BAUDER
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Madonna, pop music's quick-change artist, was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on Monday and paid tribute to people who encouraged her and even critics who panned her for helping drive her career.

Heartland hitmaker John Mellencamp, with his son Speck playing guitar and his parents watching from a balcony above the Waldorf Astoria Hotel ballroom, joined the rock-kicking with a rumbling version of "Authority Song."

"I wrote this song, and I still feel the same way today as I did when I wrote it 25 years ago," Mellencamp said.

Philly soul producers Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff, literate songwriter Leonard Cohen, British rockers the Dave Clark Five, and surf instrumentalists the Ventures were among the other inductees.

Madonna recalled a teacher who encouraged her to follow her dreams when she was only 14.

"Thirty-five years later, people are still encouraging me to believe in my dreams," she said at the induction ceremony. "What more could I ask for?"

Even the people who "said I was talentless, that I was chubby, that I couldn't sing, that I was a one-hit wonder, they helped me, too," she said. "They inspired me because they made me question myself repeatedly and pushed me to be better."

Singer Justin Timberlake, who helped produce Madonna's upcoming album, inducted her with an innuendo-laden speech.

"The world is full of Madonna wannabes. I might have even dated a couple," said Britney Spears' ex. "But there is truly only one Madonna."

Timberlake told of how he felt ill one day while working on Madonna's new album and she asked whether he wanted a B-12 shot. He said sure, expecting a doctor to show up, but Madonna pulled out a syringe and said, "drop 'em."

After he pulled his pants back up, "she looked at me and said, 'That's top shelf,' and that was one of the greatest days of my life," he said.

"Everything he said is basically true," Madonna confirmed, "but I didn't say 'drop 'em,' I said,

'pull your pants down.'"

Madonna didn't perform but asked punk rockers Iggy Pop and the Stooges to sing "Burning Up" and "Ray of Light."

At the end, a shirtless Pop said, "you make me feel shiny and new, like a virgin touched for the very first time," and tossed his microphone to the floor.

Mellencamp talked of having surgery for spina bifida when he was 6 weeks old, saying doctors were worried he would be paralyzed below the neck. The 56-year-old rocker said he never knew of the surgery until his teen years, when a classmate asked him about the scar behind his neck.

His grandmother always whispered in his ear, "Buddy, you're the luckiest boy alive."

"I'm lucky to be standing here for any number of reasons," said Mellencamp, a heart patient who snuffed out a cigarette as he took the stage.

Fellow Hall of Fame member Billy Joel, who inducted Mellencamp, said, "You scared us a couple of times when we thought we might have lost you a couple of times, even though it might have been a good career move."

The world needed Mellencamp's voice, he said.

"They need to hear somebody out there feels like they do, in the small towns or the big cities," Joel said. "And it doesn't matter if they hear it on a jukebox in a gin mill or on a ... truck commercial."

Gamble, taking the stage with his longtime partner, invited the audience to answer back his wish for "peace."

"Thank you so much, because that's exactly what our music represented," Gamble told the people gathered at the famed hotel for the annual ceremony, televised on VH1 Classic.

Patti LaBelle performed a chandelier-shaking rendition of "If You Don't Know Me By Now" to introduce Gamble and Huff. The songwriters and producers created a lush, melodic brand of soul known for their hometown and performed by a variety of artists.

Gamble cited one: Billy Paul's tale of the adulterous affair in "Me and Mrs. Jones."

"There's a little 'Me and Mrs. Jones' going on here in New York," he said to laughter, hours after New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer was accused of hiring a prostitute.

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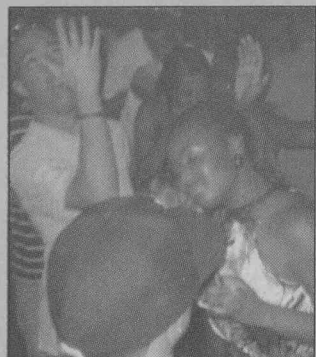
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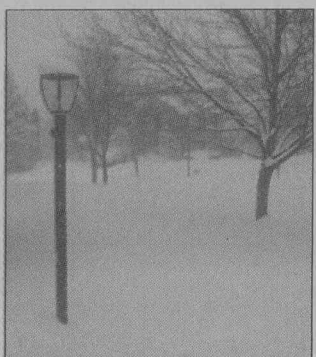
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&SCENE HEARD



Sunkissed!

Aggies soaked up the sun in MIAMI, raiding through Ocean Avenue, laying out on South Beach and of course partying at Wet Willy's, Fat Tuesday's and many other bars on the strip! Your only worries here is leaving way too soon!



Snowed Out..

While others partied on the beach others went home to Ohio for an unexpected blizzard. So what do you do when you're snowed in? Forget the nightlife there are no roads for you to even drive on. You might as well get a trash-can lid and find some hills, quick! Or read a book?

Triad Idol selects Aggie as finalist

DEXTER MULLINS
Contributor

Sanford native, freshman James McMillian was one of the many hopefuls who tried out for the local competition the Triad Idol, which is a smaller rendition of the popular reality TV show "American Idol," right here in Greensboro.

"I was in the mall and I heard someone destroying a Celine Dion song," McMillian said. "It was so bad, I just couldn't help but try out. I was the last person to try out at the Four Seasons Mall, and I made it."

Not new to the music industry, McMillian has been singing since he was about three years old, and has also had the privilege of being in several Broadway plays such as "Smokey Joe's Café," "Porky and Bess," and "The Fantastics." McMillian has also had the opportunity to record a few cds, one of which he was selling on campus this past December entitled, "Christmas With Jay."

McMillian entered the competition just to try his luck at first, but quickly got into the swing of things, despite having to change his age category just as he got into the competition.

"I tried out the week before my nineteenth birthday, so I got changed from the 13-18 category and placed in the 19 and up category, which was a lot more broad," McMillian said. "I remember one of the judges saying that you could be as old as dirt, it didn't matter, as long as you could sing. I felt pretty confident in the age group that I was in."

McMillian found himself advancing through the ranks of the competition, singing such songs as Bad Habit-by Kelly Rowland, and We Must Praise-by J. Moss, which carried him through the first two rounds.

As he approached his final two rounds, McMillian had to carefully select the material he would be singing.

"The song from the third round was the song I had to keep for the final round," he said "I chose to sing Incomplete-by Sys-q. I wanted to change it to you raise me up-Josh Grobin for the final round, but no

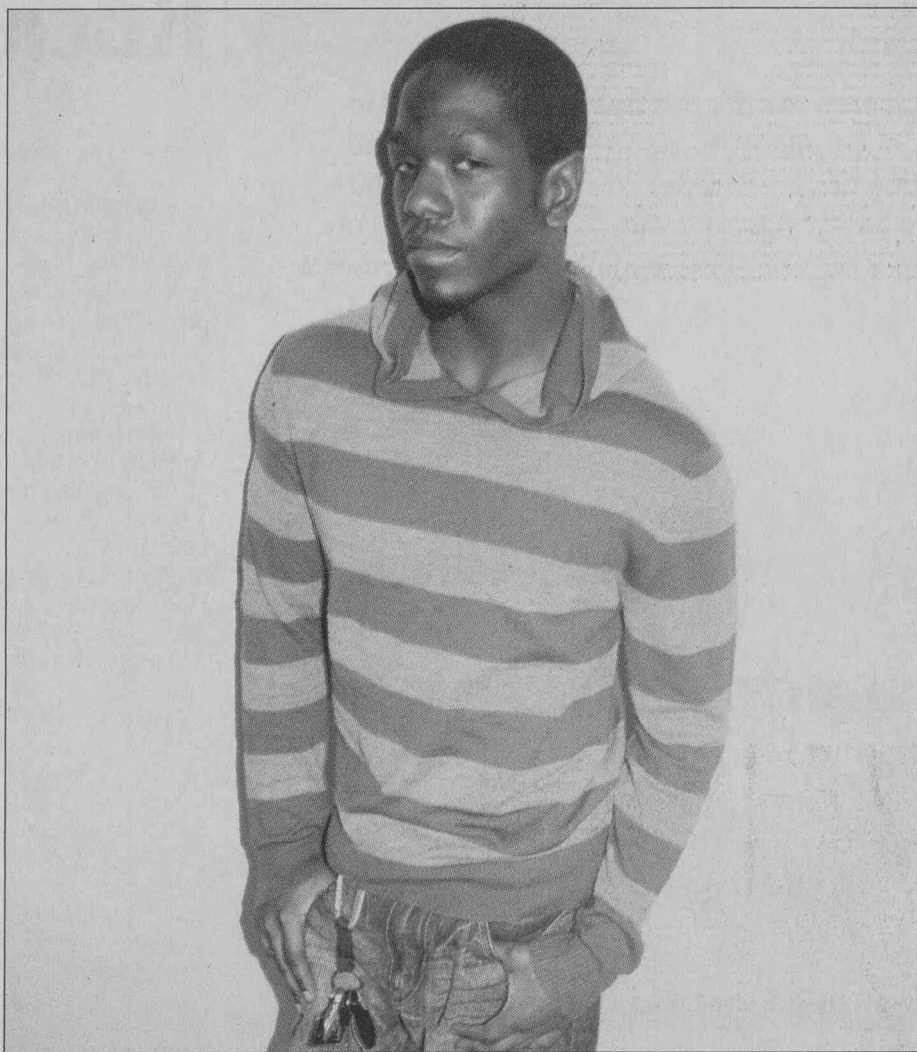


PHOTO BY AASIYA TOWNSELL - REGISTER

JAMES MCMILLIAN the talented singer, shows more of his serious side to his colorful personality

one was allowed to change there songs."

McMillian made it to the final round of the competition, which was held at the Carolina Theatre this past Sunday. He was the last contestant to perform.

After all was said and done, McMillian didn't place, but he feels as if the real prize was the experience.

"Overall I feel as if I made some really great contacts and It was a great experience," he said. "I made it to the final round, but I didn't place unfortunately. An older woman won the competition.

I would say she was in her late 40's. Other then not winning, I wouldn't have changed a thing."

McMillian is a history professional major, but says his heart is in music. He is currently working on finishing his demo cd, and is waiting to see what will happen.

"I'm looking forward to getting in the studio and finishing up some things," McMillian said. "Who knows what will happen. If nothing else, I can always be a professor of history."

MOVIE EXAM

10,000 B.C. a prehistoric waste of time

ASHLEY WITHERS
News Editor

10,000 B. C should have stayed in 10,000 B.C.

I was mad I spent my money, but also my time on a film where the mammoths and tigers did better acting than the actors. Directed by Ronald Emmerich, this boring movie is about a boy D'Leh, played by Stephen Strait who falls in love with Evolet, played by Camilla Belle.

D'Leh has some childhood scars and thinks that he has to prove his manhood and loyalty to his tribe because when he was a boy his father left to find a better home for the tribe, but never came back and D'Leh was soon named the son of a coward.

In a village mammoth hunt, D'Leh wins and is glorified for his great performance. Just when we think D'Leh's luck was turned, he takes the noble approach and confesses that he didn't completely

kill the mammoth, like anyone cares how he killed the mammoth, he got the job done right?

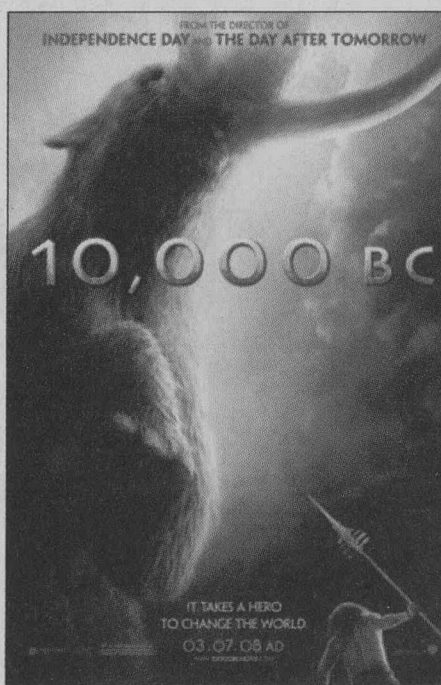
D'Leh's manhood is tested again when faced with the challenge to go and rescue his love Evolet who was captured by evil villagers.

But it isn't easy getting to the other side of the mountain. D'Leh faces many obstacles and fights off all types of dangerous animals.

With what seemed to be the most predictable fight scene, D'Leh has to defeat the "Almighty", some creepy man covered with a veil with long nasty fingernails, who I guess was the ruler of the city.

What got me the worst were the jibber-lame-o dialogue these tribal men were speaking (with subtitles).

Will D'Leh finally become a man and save his woman? Or will Evolet be held hostage forever? That is for you to find out. **Grade: C-**



Clooney speaks for Darfur

LONDON (AP) — George Clooney has put pressure on an Olympic sponsor to speak out over China's foreign policy in Sudan.

The Hollywood star promotes Omega Watches — one of the worldwide Olympic partners for the Beijing games.

"I have talked with Omega (about China) for over a year and will continue to talk to Omega," Clooney was quoted as saying on the BBC Web site on Tuesday. "I have and will go to the places I and China do business and ask for help."

Clooney has publicly spoken several times about the crisis in Darfur, Sudan, where more than 200,000 people have been killed and about 2.5 million people displaced in three years of fighting between African rebels and government

troops allied with Arab militia known as janjaweed.

China is a major trading partner with Sudan, and Beijing has resisted United Nations attempts to force Sudan to accept U.N. peacekeepers in Darfur.

The push to link the Beijing Games to the Darfur crisis gained wide attention last month when Hollywood director Steven Spielberg said he could not in good conscience serve as an artistic adviser to the opening and closing ceremonies.

"I have and will continue to ask China to use its considerable leverage with the government of Sudan."

Omega has been the official timekeeper for the Olympics since 1932 — including the boycotted games in 1980 and

1984. Swatch Group chief executive Nick Hayek, whose company owns Omega, said executives had discussed the issue with Clooney.

"We have full respect for his strong engagement in the fight for the good cause and share his opinion, especially concerning Darfur, and we are proud to work with a person who has such high ethical views," Hayek was quoted as telling the BBC.

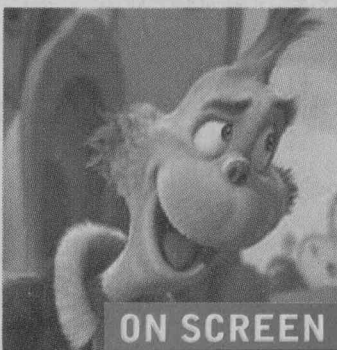
"It is our policy not to get involved in politics."

Hayek said Omega would speak out on China's association with Sudan, but directly with high-level contacts rather than publicly.

- A.P.

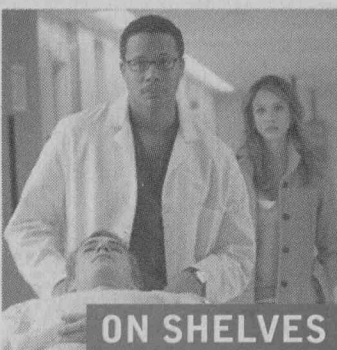
March 12 to 18

The A&T Register's guide to what's going on this week in arts and entertainment.



HORTON HEARS A WHO!

stars Jim Carrey and Steve Carell which hits theaters Friday. Based on the Dr. Seuss book series this film is about an imaginative elephant who hears a cry for help coming from a tiny speck of dust floating through the air.



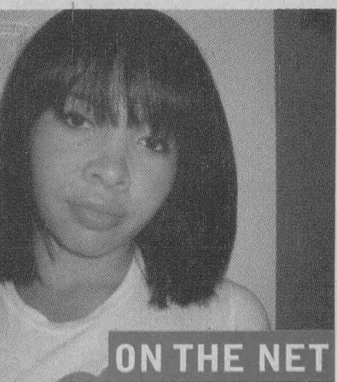
AWAKE

now out on DVD, is a psychological thriller about a common occurrence called "anesthetic awareness," a horrifying phenomenon wherein a patient's (Hayden Christensen) failed anesthesia leaves him fully conscious but physically paralyzed during surgery.



COUTURE WORD

presents poetry night at the Commuter Lounge in the basement of Memorial Student Union on Tuesday from 8p.m.-10p.m. It's an "Artlifestyle" atmosphere, a time to free your mind and let go. Whether you need to vent, start a discussion, or just plain receive love from the audience this is your time to shine on the mic. They are welcoming all poets, rappers and musicians to come out and share their talents with the Aggie family!



MYFASHIONATION.

BLOGSPOT.COM check out theScene editor's blog on the latest trends in fashion, art and pop culture world wide with "Some chicks from Chicago." The site also gives you the scoop on the latest parties in the trendiest cities. So next time you're surfing the net, put Facebook on pause and click on myfashionation!

► PRESS PLAY

Lil Wayne Ft. Babyface "Comfortable"

An ode to "bachelorhood" this song is definately something to be comfortable with. Having Babyface's vocals on a Kanye West track is never wrong. - A.T.

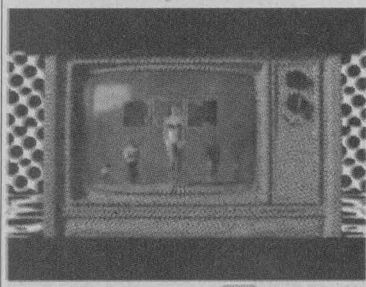
II PRESS PAUSE

Mariah Carey "Touch My Body"

Not only is this song disappointing but her video blows too. She should just give the studio a rest. - A.T.

MUST SEE YT

Gnarls Barkley - Run



Gnarls Barkley has flexed its video making muscles in unique videos for "Crazy" and "Smiley Faces" but "Run" beats them all just because its the only one to be banned from MTV. Watch at your own risk because the video could cause seizures (seriously, that's why it's banned) and be on the look out for the triumphant return of the Bankhead Bounce too!

- M.M.

20 QUESTIONS

1. When does senioritis kick in?
2. When was the last real great homecoming on earth?
3. Why isn't there a soccer team here?
4. Would anyone even tryout besides the students from Africa?
5. Why is there always a line in the union shouldn't they pre cook more food?
6. What's the point of having grass if you can't even walk on it?
7. Where else are we going to walk on when it rains?
8. The flooded sidewalks?
9. Why is MTVU always playing in the Union and Pizza Hut?
10. Why not show BET?
11. Who still has a chirp phone?
12. Why can't all the dorms be coed?
13. Who still has money left on there Aggie One Card?
14. Who else hates the community bathrooms?
15. Why do teachers have office hours posted and then not show up?
16. Should we shorten the 10/15min rule?
17. Why doesn't cramming for a test work?
18. What's better FREE food or FREE stuff?
19. Why don't they make Heelie shows for adults?
20. Light up shoes for adults?